Appln. No.: 09/783,023

Amendment dated December 11, 2003

Filed with Appeal Brief

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS** 

In conjunction with the Appeal Brief concurrently filed herewith and to place the

application in better form for appeal, appellants respectfully request entry of the instant

amendment. Claims 1-11 remain pending; claims 12-20 were previously canceled; and claims

21-31 have been withdrawn as directed to a non-elected species.

Appellants have amended claim 9 to correct an obvious antecedent basis problem. Also,

the references to "FIGS. 22 to 28" on pages 1 and 2 of the specification have been corrected to

read --FIGS. 28 to 33--. No substantive issues are raised by these amendments.

**CONCLUSION** 

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an

overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No.

19-0733, accordingly.

Appellants respectfully request entry of the instant amendment, and respectfully solicit

notification of the same with the next communication in the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: December 11, 2003

By:

Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001-4597

Tel:

(202) 824-3000

Fax:

(202) 824-3001

GDF:lab

Page 5 of 5